Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELFAS 00104 291554Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /072 W

-----300253Z 027248 /75-70

R 291424Z MAR 77 FM AMCONSUL BELFAST TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1622 INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN AMEMBASSY LONDON USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 104

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: TERRORISM: ANGRY PROTESTANT REACTIONS

- 1. PROTESTANT WOMAN AGED 63 SHOT TO DEATH IN COUNTY ANTRIM FARMHOUSE MARCH 28. AT LEAST FOUR GUNMEN ATTEMPTED TO AMBUSH SON AND WHEN HE ESCAPED THEY RIDDLED FARMHOUSE WITH BULLETS KILLING WOMAN BUT MISSING HER HUSBAND AND YOUNG DAUGHTER. ANOTHER SON IS RESERVIST IN ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY. FAMILY ATTEND FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND MODERATOR IAN PAISLEY BLAMED PROVISIONAL IRA FOR ATTACK. HE IS CONSIDERING ABSENTING HIMSELF FROM PARLIAMENT IN PROTEST OVER GOVERNMENT SECURITY POLICY AND ATTENDING ONLY WHEN HE CAN CAST AN IMPORTANT VOTE TO DEFEAT GOVERNMENT.
- 2. ULSTER SPECIAL CONSTABULARY ASSOCIATION (FORMER B SPECIALS) HAS ISSUED STATEMENT WARNING THAT IF PROVISIONALS IRA IN SOUTH ARMAGH STEP UP MURDER CAMPAIGN "IT WILL LEAD TO OVER-REACTION BY THE LAW-ABIDING PEOPLE OF THE AREA." SPOKESMAN SAID MANY PEOPLE WERE NOW CONSIDERING THEY WOULD BE JUSTIFIED IN TAKING THE LAW INTO THEIR OWN HANDS "IN THE LIGHT OF WESTMINSTER'S LOSS OF WILL." UNCLASSIFIED

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3. VISIT OF DUBLIN LORD MAYOR AND FIFTY-FIVE COUNCILLORS AND OFFICIALS TO BELFAST COUNCIL IN HISTORIC FIRST MARCH 28 WAS ALSO OBJECT OF PROTESTANT PROTEST. BELFAST DEMOCRATIC UNIONIST COUNCILLORS (PAISLEYITE) BOYCOTTED PROCEEDINGS AND THERE SMALL DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE CITY HALL WITH PLACARDS BEARING SUCH INSCRIPTIONS AS "EIRE - A HAVEN FOR MURDERERS"

AND "DEFEAT IRA FIRST." DUBLIN CONTIGENT RECEIVED HOSPITALITY OF EUROPA HOTEL WHICH NEWLY OPENED AFTER MONTHS OF REPAIRS FOLLOWING 28TH BOMB EXPLOSION.SPICER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: PROTESTANTS, CIVIL DISORDERS, TERRORISTS, DEATHS

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